

## FIRST MESA CONSOLIDATED VILLAGES

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BY: WATER RESOURCES

March 3, 2015

Hopi Tribal Council Hopi Tribe P.O. Box 123 Kykotsmovi, Arizona 86039

Dear Hopi Tribal Council Representatives:

This letter serves to urge your approval for the Hopi Arsenic Mitigation Project to immediately began the construction of the water distribution systems to our village. Every day that goes by, reminds us of our waiver from EPA to continue the use our village water wells containing arsenic. Our every day constrained water operations budget can not afford the penalty fees after the expiration of the waiver.

Our village supported the project and allowed permission for the existing wells to be drilled on the traditional range lands of ranchers from First Mesa. Our leaders are prepared to review the water lines for the connections to grant the required right-of-ways. We have been informed that the HAMP water system will now include the Hopi Jr./Sr. High School and the BIA Hopi Agency. Anticipating this will include our village members homes along the proposed water line, our leaders are prepared to favorably consider the use of village lands.

We have recently been informed that electricity to the well sites maybe the current obstacle. It is difficult to comprehend when Navajo Tribal Utility Authority power lines are currently almost at the site. The Tawa-ovi Project demands and requirements are apparently one of the reasons for the delay of power. If so, this confirms our position to oppose this project because of the current competition with village developments.

We agree that "water is life" and the need for the completion of the HAMP is essential for the future of our people. In closing, we urge the Hopi Tribal Council's immediate approval of the project.

/W

Sincerely

Ivan L. Sidney, Business Manager

Cc:

Hopi Villages

**FMCV Traditional Leaders** 

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BY: WATER RESOURCES

Herman Honanie, Chairman The Hopi Tribe P.O. Box 123 Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039

Dear Lionel:

Village of Mishongnovi representatives have been briefed on the proposed routing of the pipelines and location of other features for the proposed Hopi Arsenic Mitigation Project (HAMP) that are shown in the Preliminary Engineering Report and Environmental Assessment prepared by the Indian Health Service. We look forward to HAMP being constructed and bringing water to Village of Mishongnovi that reduces the level of arsenic in the water so that it easily meets the EPA water quality standard and brings our water system into full compliance with EPA water quality standards. We also understand that there will be further discussions between Tribal representatives and village representatives in the near future to discuss overall plans and requirements for moving forward with HAMP.

In the meantime, however, we are advised that the Indian Health Service has requested assurance from the Tribe that the routing of the pipelines and location of other HAMP facilities is acceptable from a cultural perspective so that they can complete the National Environmental Policy Act compliance process by approving the Finding of No Significant Impact based on their Environmental Assessment. We also are advised that the Finding of No Significant Impact will be required for submission of applications for federal assistance to construct HAMP as well as for preliminary work on HAMP. We have been advised that Tribal officials are requesting assurances from the Hopi Villages that will receive water from HAMP that they find the proposed routing acceptable before they provide the assurance requested by the Indian Health Service. We are pleased to provide such assurance.

Village of Mishongnovi agrees the pipeline alignments designated on the maps included as part of the Preliminary Engineering Report for the Hopi Arsenic Mitigation Project are acceptable and will cause no adverse effects on buildings, structures, shrines, or other cultural features within Village of Mishongnovi. It is understood that construction work on HAMP, when it occurs, will be scheduled in consultation between the villages and Tribe so as not to interfere with ceremonies.

Sincerely yours,

CANSTANCEOURS
MISHONIONOUS BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CHARRANAN. 3/1/2015